

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018359

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 018359 SENT ACTION SOFIA DATED 25 JAN
1975:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018359

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAGR,EAID,PFOR,BU

SUBJECT: GOB INTEREST IN COOPERATION

REF: SOFIA 2308

1. AGRICULTURE AND STATE WERE PLEASED TO LEARN OF GOB INTENTION TO INITIATE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS DIRECTLY WITH NON-USG INSTITUTIONS. THE PROJECTS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES IN THE U.S. ARE GENERALLY CONDUCTED THIS WAY, AND AGRICULTURE HAS NO FUNDS OF ITS OWN FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES. SINCE DIRECT APPROACH MINIMIZES TIME REQUIRED AND AVOIDS MEDIATION BY AGRICULTURE, IT HAS ALSO PROVED HIGHLY EFFECTIVE.

2. STAFF AND FUNDS LIMITATIONS PRECLUDE CONSIDERATION OF A BILATERAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE GOB AT THIS TIME. FURTHER, AS A GENERAL RULE, AGRICULTURE BELIEVES SUCH AGREEMENTS ARE UNNECESSARY TO PROMOTE BILATERAL
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AGRICULTURAL TIES.

3. FYI: AS POST IS AWARE, BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BETWEEN NSF AND BAN HAS NOT BEEN CONCLUDED. IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT COULD BE NEGOTIATED, AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION MIGHT BE SUPPORTED BY NSF, BUT POST SHOULD BE AWARE THAT AGRICULTURAL SUBJECT MATTER PROPOSED IS NOT WITHIN THE PRIORITY FIELDS PREVIOUSLY ADVANCED BY BAN TO NSF. END FYI.

4. ON SEPARATE ISSUE, ACCEPTANCE OF BULGARIAN (AND OTHER EE) INVITATIONS BY SECRETARY BUTZ IS OPEN QUESTION. CLIMATE FOR EE VISITS BY CABINET OFFICERS IS UNCERTAIN AT PRESENT, AND THESE DECISIONS ARE BEING TEMPORARILY DEFERRED. WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED. INGERSOLL UNQTE KISSINGER

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